



REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 29 is cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-4, 6-18, 20-28, and 30 are allowed.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-4, 6-18, 20-28, and 30 are currently pending and under consideration in the present application.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIM 29 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(A) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER KIKUCHI ET AL. (USP# 6,298,143 B1)

Claim 29 is cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

III. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

All of the remaining pending claims 1-4, 6-18, 20-28, and 30 are allowed. It is submitted therefore that the subject application be placed in condition for allowance.

IV. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 30, 2005

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